

Message Text

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EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARIES HARTMAN AND ENDERS
PASS TREASURY FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY COOPER

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, OECD
SUBJECT: IEP: VAN LENNEP'S VIEWS ON RELATIONSHIP OF
NEW ENERGY AGENCY TO OECD

REF: USOECD 22870

1. THIS MESSAGE REPORTS ON SECGEN VAN LENNEP'S VIEWS
ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NEW ENERGY AGENCY AND OECD
WHICH EMERGED FROM RECENT DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR
TURNER AND SENIOR MISSION OFFICERS.

2. VAN LENNEP FEELS THAT COUNCIL DECISION SHOULD
CLEARLY DELEGATE FULL AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO
NEW AUTONOMOUS ENERGY AGENCY'S GOVERNING BOARD. AT
THE SAME TIME, COUNCIL DECISION SHOULD DIRECT SECGEN
TO SERVE ENERGY AGENCY'S NEEDS AND TO ACCEPT
RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAKING SURE SECRETARIAT FULFILLS
THIS FUNCTION. HE STATES THAT ONLY THUS CAN
AUTONOMOUS ENERGY AGENCY BE ACCOMMODATED WITHIN OECD
FRAMEWORK CONSISTENT WITH OECD CONVENTION. IN HIS
CONCEPT, THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SECGEN UNDER THE
TERMS OF THE CONVENTION MUST NOT BE IMPAIRED AND THIS
REQUIRES THAT THE HEAD OF THE ENERGY AGENCY SECRETARIAT
BE APPOINTED WITH SECGEN'S CONSENT. (SECGEN'S
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SUGGESTED FORMULATION IS APPOINTMENT BY ENERGY AGENCY'S

GOVERNING BOARD ON PROPOSAL BY SECGEN.)

3. WE ARGUED VIGOROUSLY THAT US AND OTHER MEMBERS OF IEP MUST BE ASSURED THAT NEW AGENCY IS ABLE TO TAKE TIMELY ACTIONS WITHOUT INTERFERENCE FROM OECD MEMBERS THAT DO NOT BELONG TO IEP. THEREFORE, SECRETARIAT OF IEP MUST BE COMPLETELY RESPONSIVE TO NEEDS OF NEW AGENCY AND BE ABLE TO PROVIDE RAPID AND OBJECTIVE FINDINGS ON THE FACTS IN CRISIS SITUATIONS.

4. VAN LENNEP RESPONDED THAT HE FULLY SHARES THIS OBJECTIVE AND THAT IN FACT HIS CONCEPT OF COUNCIL DECISION IS THE ONLY WAY TO RECONCILE THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE OECD CONVENTION AND AT THE SAME TIME TO INSULATE THE SECRETARIAT FROM POSSIBLE PRESSURES FROM EITHER PARTICIPATING OR NON-PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES. WITH SUCH A COUNCIL DECISION, THE SECGEN BELIEVES HE COULD ASSURE AGENCY WITH COMPLETELY RESPONSIVE SECRETARIAT SUPPORT, FULLY BUFFERED AGAINST INTERFERENCE FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS. UNDER THESE CONDITIONS, THE SECRETARIAT WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE ONLY TO THE GOVERNING BOARD IN THOSE AREAS OF AUTONOMY GRANTED TO THE ENERGY AGENCY BY THE BASIC COUNCIL DECISION. VAN LENNEP IN HIS VISITS TO WASHINGTON WILL URGE THAT US GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO HIS VIEWS WHICH HE BELIEVES NOT ONLY MEET REQUIREMENTS OF OECD CONVENTION BUT ALSO NECESSARY TO SECURE UNANIMOUS DECISION OF THE OECD COUNCIL FOR CREATION OF THE ENERGY AGENCY.

5. COMMENT. VAN LENNEP ADVANCED THESE IDEAS TO US WITH SOME FIRMNESS AND HE EXPECTS TO TAKE THEM UP WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS IN WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK. MISSION'S INITIAL REACTION IS THAT SECGEN'S POSITION CAN BE ACCOMMODATED BY SOME SKILLFUL LEGAL DRAFTING, SINCE HE SHARES OUR BASIC OBJECTIVE OF HAVING THE ENERGY AGENCY WITHIN THE OECD, WHILE MAINTAINING ITS CAPACITY FOR TIMELY AND EFFECTIVE ACTIONS IN CRISIS SITUATIONS. WE HOPE AGREEMENT ON FORMULATION OF SECGEN'S ROLE RE NEW ENERGY AGENCY IN COUNCIL DECISION CAN BE ACHIEVED DURING VAN LENNEP'S VISIT, SO AS TO

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REMOVE POSSIBLE RISK OF THIS ISSUE BECOMING AN UNNECESSARY OBSTACLE TO QUICK AND FAVORABLE OECD COUNCIL ACTION ON IEP PROGRAM.

TURNER

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